



FY 2008 NOAA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



National Marine Fisheries Service

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requests \$796.0M in FY 2008, reflecting a net increase of \$59.1M from the FY 2007 President's Budget, which is a decrease of \$7.9M from the FY 2006 enacted level. This budget request supports the funding and program requirements necessary to address established NOAA strategic goals and sets NMFS on a path to achieve its vision: that the American people enjoy the resources and benefits of healthy and diverse marine ecosystems.

FY 2008 Program Change Highlights

Protected Species Research & Management +\$3.9M: NMFS will assess acoustic impacts on protected species due to proposed activities related to defense readiness and energy exploration. The increase will facilitate better informed determinations in authorizing these activities (through permits and consultations) under the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The request also supports research on critically endangered right whales to reduce risks posed by collisions with ships and entanglement with fishing gear and will enable NOAA to implement Klamath River salmon recovery projects.

Fisheries Research and Management Programs +\$17.5M: NMFS will begin to address the new and expanded requirements under the Magnuson – Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006. In addition, NMFS will make greater use of market-based systems for fisheries management by establishing Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs) programs to reduce overcapacity and end the "race for fish." The funding will allow NMFS to double the number of LAPPs in use by FY 2010. NMFS will also improve forecasting of marine ecosystem responses to various management strategies—one of the near-term priorities of the Ocean Research Priorities Plan.

Survey and Monitoring Projects +\$1.7M: These funds will improve NMFS' ability to administer two research and monitoring programs in Alaska. NOAA will continue to collaborate with entities in Alaska to conduct crustacean (crab) research and monitoring.

Observers +\$3.0M: NMFS will apply the requested increase to the Northeast Groundfish Court-Ordered Observer Program line item to meet regulatory requirements for managing the New England groundfish and Atlantic sea scallop fisheries.

Habitat Restoration +\$10.0M: NOAA will purchase three hydropower dams on the Penobscot River. The two most seaward dams will be removed, and fish bypass will be created at the third dam. The funding will provide for improved fish passage at four other dams in the watershed. This project will rebuild the Penobscot

River's once abundant historic fishery, which includes 11 migratory fish species, such as Atlantic salmon and American shad, and will reopen fish access to nearly 1,000 miles of habitat while maintaining hydropower production.



Antarctic Research +\$0.6M:

These funds enable NMFS' Antarctic Marine Living Resources Program to develop an International Polar Year research program and collect biological and oceanographic information for one of the longest running data streams on the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

Aquaculture +\$3.0M: NMFS will develop a regulatory program for marine aquaculture in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone called for in the Administration's offshore aquaculture legislative proposal.

NMFS Facilities Operations and Maintenance +\$2.0M: This request will allow NMFS to cover operation and maintenance costs for the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center's new Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute (Lena Point Facility).

La Jolla Temporary Relocation +\$1.0M: NMFS will use the increase to provide temporary leased space for personnel working in the Southwest Fisheries Science Center until construction of new facilities is completed. NMFS has safety concerns with this facility due to its proximity to an eroding bluff abutting the Pacific Ocean.

Other Projects +\$5.0M: This request provides sufficient funding to address the Pacific Islands Region and Science Center administrative and programmatic responsibilities and provides the resources needed to fulfill their goals in fishery management, protected species and habitat conservation, financial and operational management, and public outreach.

NMFS FY 2008 Budget Request (\$ in Millions)				
	FY 06 Enacted	FY 07 Request	Net Change	FY 08 Request
ORF	\$667.2	\$649.0	\$ 55.6	\$ 704.6
PAC	\$30.4	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0
Other	\$106.2	\$87.9	\$ 3.5	\$ 91.4
TOTAL	\$803.8	\$736.9	\$ 59.1	\$ 796.0

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office:
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